

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EK102712514US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SERIAL NO.:

08/160,965

DOCKET:

P00965US0

FILING DATE:

12/02/93

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APPLICANT:

Musser et al.

EXAMINER: Ja-Na Hines

TITLE:

Vaccines Containing Cysteine

Protease and Methods to

ART UNIT: 1641

#W/F 60 2-2001

Protect Against Group A Streptococci

AMENDMENTS AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Box Response **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2000, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks that follow.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3-6, 10, and 12 as follows.

1. (Amended three times) A vaccine [for use in an animal against Group A streptococcal infection, comprising:

> a physiologically acceptable non-toxic vehicle containing a [conserved] purified cysteine protease, which confers [in an amount sufficient to confer] immunity to a mammal against Group A streptococcal infection, selected from the group

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